

What is claimed is:

1. A method of covering a pot, comprising:

providing a pot having an upper end, a lower end, an outer peripheral surface, an inner retaining space, and a maximum diameter;

providing a decorative preformed sleeve initially having a flattened condition and comprising a body having a tapered shape and having an upper end, a lower end, an outer peripheral surface, an inner peripheral surface, an inner diameter, and having a pot containing portion, and wherein the inner diameter exceeds the maximum diameter of the pot by at least about 10 percent;

opening the decorative preformed sleeve and disposing the pot within the pot containing portion of the opened decorative preformed sleeve;
and

applying a banding element about a portion of the decorative preformed sleeve to secure the decorative preformed sleeve about the pot.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the decorative preformed sleeve further comprises an upper portion extending from the upper end of the body of the decorative preformed sleeve which is detachable therefrom via a detaching element in the decorative preformed sleeve.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the upper portion of the decorative preformed sleeve is sized to substantially surround and enclose a portion of a floral grouping disposed within the pot.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the upper portion of the decorative preformed sleeve is adapted to support the body of the decorative preformed sleeve from a support assembly.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the decorative preformed sleeve further comprises a decorative skirt portion extending from the body.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the inner diameter is measured at a lower end of the decorative skirt portion.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the body of the decorative preformed sleeve further comprises a gusset in a lower portion thereof.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the decorative preformed sleeve further comprises a side gusset in the body.

9. The method of claim 2 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the upper portion of the decorative preformed sleeve comprises a bonding material disposed upon an upper end thereof for sealing the upper end of the upper portion or for attaching the upper portion to an upper portion of an adjacent decorative preformed sleeve in a pad or stack of decorative preformed sleeves.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of applying a securing element, the securing element is selected from the group consisting of ties, strings, wires, ribbons, rubber bands, collars, rings, staples, and tapes.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of applying a securing element, the securing element is applied to the decorative preformed sleeve at a position above the upper end of the pot.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of applying the securing element, the securing element is applied to the decorative preformed sleeve at a position below the upper end of the pot.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein, in the step of applying securing element, the securing element is pre-attached to the decorative preformed sleeve before the pot is disposed within the decorative preformed sleeve.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein the inner diameter of the decorative preformed sleeve is measured at the upper end of the body.

15. A plant package comprising a pot having a floral grouping disposed therein, the pot covered by a decorative preformed sleeve, the plant package produced by the method of claim 1.

16. A method of covering a pot, comprising:

providing a pot having an upper end, a lower end, an outer peripheral surface, an inner retaining space, and a maximum diameter;

providing a decorative preformed sleeve initially having a flattened condition and comprising a body having a tapered shape and having an upper end, a closed, non-gusseted lower end, an outer peripheral surface, an inner peripheral surface, an inner diameter, and having a pot containing portion, and wherein the inner diameter exceeds the maximum diameter of the pot by at least about 10 percent;

opening the decorative preformed sleeve and disposing the pot within the pot containing portion of the opened decorative preformed sleeve;

and

applying a securing element about a portion of the decorative preformed sleeve to secure the decorative preformed sleeve about the pot.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the decorative preformed sleeve further comprises an upper portion extending from the upper end of the body of the decorative preformed sleeve which is detachable therefrom via a detaching element in the decorative preformed sleeve.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the upper portion of the decorative preformed sleeve is sized to substantially surround and enclose a portion of a floral grouping disposed within the pot.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the upper portion of the decorative preformed sleeve is adapted to support the body of the decorative preformed sleeve from a support assembly.

20. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the decorative preformed sleeve further comprises a decorative skirt portion extending from the body.

21. The method of claim 16 wherein the inner diameter is measured at a lower end of the decorative skirt portion.

22. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the decorative preformed sleeve further comprises a side gusset in the body.

23. The method of claim 17 wherein, in the step of providing the decorative preformed sleeve, the upper portion of the decorative preformed sleeve comprises a bonding material disposed upon an upper end thereof for sealing the upper end of the upper portion or for attaching the upper portion to an upper portion of an adjacent decorative preformed sleeve in a pad or stack of decorative preformed sleeves.

24. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of applying a securing element, the securing element is selected from the group consisting of ties, strings, wires, ribbons, rubber bands, collars, rings, staples, and tapes.

25. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of applying a securing element, the securing element is applied to the decorative preformed sleeve at a position above the upper end of the pot.

26. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of applying a securing element, the securing element is applied to the decorative preformed sleeve at a position below the upper end of the pot.

27. The method of claim 16 wherein, in the step of applying a securing element, the securing element is pre-attached to the decorative preformed sleeve before the pot is disposed within the decorative preformed sleeve.

28. The method of claim 16 wherein the inner diameter of the decorative preformed sleeve is measured at the upper end of the body.

29. A plant package comprising a pot having a floral grouping disposed therein, the pot covered by a decorative preformed sleeve, the plant package produced by the method of claim 16.